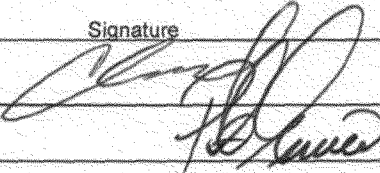





<b>1. Incident Name</b> Gold King Mine Release Incident Area Command Op Guide 14 (72 Hour Op Guide)	<b>2. Operating Cycle(Date/Time)</b> From: 31AUG15/0700      To: 03SEP15/0700	<b>CG AC Op Guide Cover Sheet</b>
<b>3. Approved by Area Commander:</b>		
Position	NAME	Signature
Area Commander: Mr. Chris Ruhl, EPA R6		
Deputy Area Commander: Mr. Pete Guria, EPA R9		
Deputy Area Commander: Mr. David Ostrander, EPA R8		
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Area Command Operating Guide #15</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">The items checked below are included in this Area Command Guide:</p>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC 202-CG (Area Command Objectives, Priorities)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC 202A-CG (Area Commander's Direction)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 202b-CG (Area Commander's Coordinating Requirements)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 207-CG (Organization Chart)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC 205a-CG (Communications Plan)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC 206-CG (Medical Plan)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Map / Chart		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weather Forecast / Tides/Currents		
<b>Other Attachments</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC Safety Message/Site Visitors Safety		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC 230- Meeting Schedule		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC 230L- Visitation Schedule		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Management Roles		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data Flow Chart		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAQ's		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACP, JIC & ICP Colorado Location Evacuation Plan		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Requesting Guidance		
<b>4. Prepared by:</b> Ms. Erin Lambie, USCG		<b>Date/Time</b> 31AUG2015/1700

<b>1. Area Command Identifier</b> <b>Gold King Mine Release Incident Area Command</b> <b>OP Guide 15</b>	<b>2. Operating Cycle(Date/Time)</b> From: 31AUG15/0700 To: 02SEP15/0700	<b>AREA COMMAND OBJECTIVES</b> <b>ICS AC202-CG/EPA</b>
<b>3. Area Command Objective(s)</b>  Provide for SAFETY and welfare of citizens and response personnel  Ensure staff and field personnel are receiving adequate rest and rehab  AC will provide CISM to ICP, ACP and field personnel  Implement a coordinated response to protect the environment  Support the transition of the EPA Help-Line to an EPA HQ Contractor  Accelerate posting of sampling data using the Data Flow Diagram  Coordinate executive level information dissemination with a nightly AC SITREP  Oversee proactive media outreach strategy and maintain coordination with incident level JIC's		
<b>4. Area Command Priorities &amp; Key Decisions:</b>  <u><b>Priorities:</b></u> Community, Responders and IMT members safety and well being Oversee, Manage and Coordinate visitations to the Mine Site Continue to optimize sample data; review and post Ensure IC's are coordinating across multiple State, Tribal and County jurisdictions Ensure proactive media strategy and public outreach is implemented  <u><b>Key Decisions:</b></u> <b>Incident Name: Gold King Mine Release Incident</b> <b>Area Command will Operate under a 48 hour AC Op Guide</b> <b>Beginning 25AUG2015, the new ACP, ICP Colorado and JIC will be:</b> <b>135 Burnett Drive, Durango, CO</b>  <i>In the event of Reports of harassment, Discrimination or Violent Behavior the AC will contact the Company's or Agency's Human Resources Department and the local Law Enforcement Authorities</i>		
<b>5. Prepared by: (AC Planning)</b> Ms. Erin Lambie, USCG 		<b>Date/Time</b> 30AUG15/1700
<b>AREA COMMAND OBJECTIVES</b>		<b>AC-202-CG/EPA (Rev. 08/15)</b>

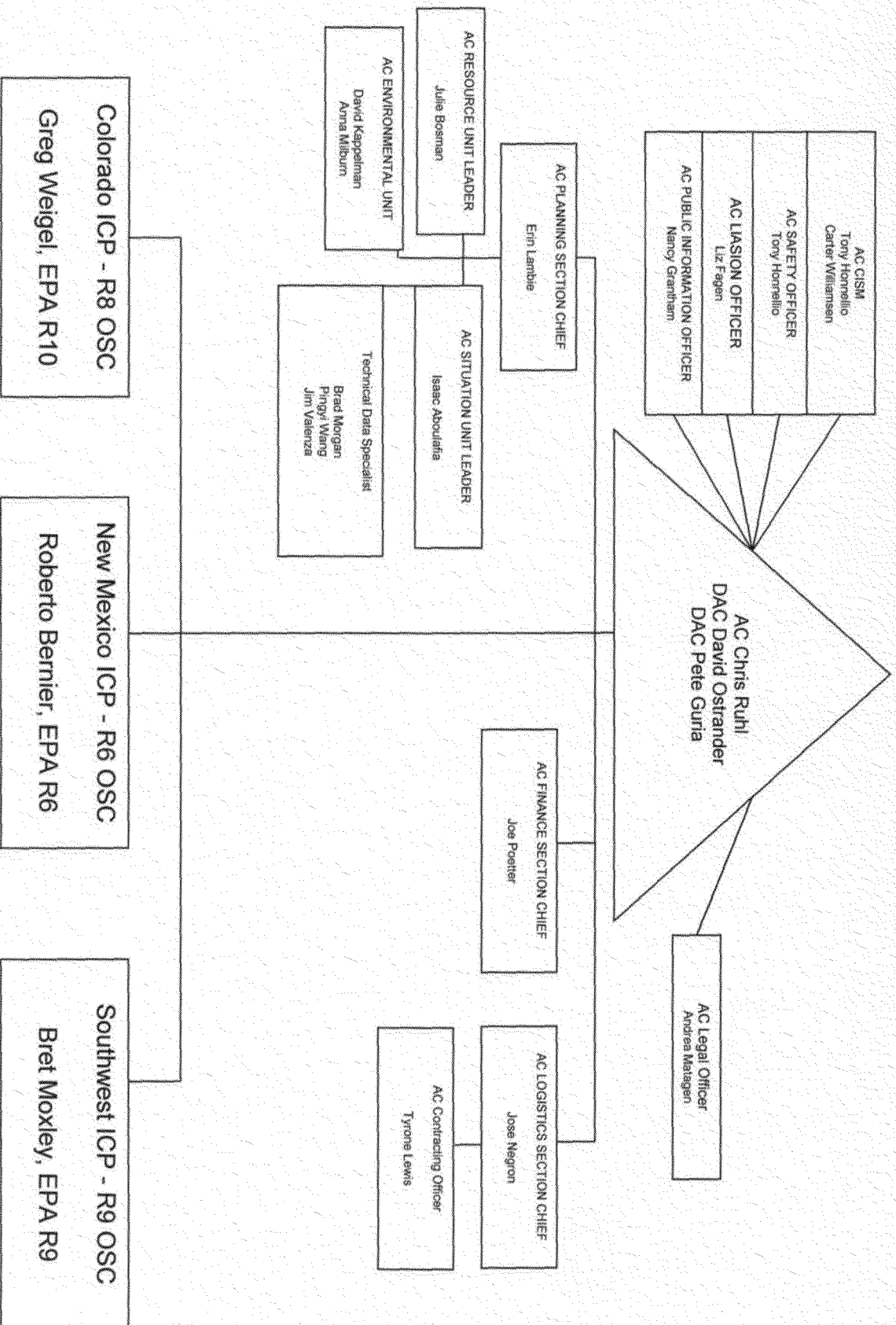
<b>1. Area Command Identifier</b> <b>Gold King Mine Release Incident Area Command Op Guide 15</b>	<b>2. Operating Cycle(Date/Time)</b> From: 31AUG15/0700 To: 02SEP15/0700	<b>AREA COMMAND 202a- UC TASKING</b>
<b>3. Area Command Tasking to the Unified Commanders:</b>  <p><i>There is litigation hold for the Gold King Mine Release Response, all electronic records, paper documentation and electronic communication must be retained. EPA Incident Commanders are responsible for all response personnel (federal, state, county, local, tribal and contractors) follow EPA Regional documentation procedures for record retention.</i></p> <p>Ensure all responders follow the Resource Request Process and Flow Chart</p> <p>Submit daily 1955 Forms, Burn Rate and Totals to AC Finance Section Chief</p> <p>Ensure newly reported personnel meet medical standards set by SHEMD, receive a safety brief and adhere to the Site Safety Plan</p> <p>Ensure staff is receiving time off to rest and rehab</p> <p><u>Review draft Transition Plan(s)</u></p> <p>Develop and adhere to a Documentation Plan</p> <p>Track en-route personnel and resources; communicate this information to AC LSC and AC FSC</p> <p>Approve and synchronize all data and information releases with the Area Command</p> <p>Establish a Liaison Officer at all ICPs to maintain constraint and consistent engagement with local stakeholders</p> <p>Adjust ICP ICS 230 meeting schedule to meet Area Command briefing and information collection requirements</p> <p>Maintain daily sign-in/check-in procedures capturing personnel hours, equipment and other expenditures</p> <p>Incident Commanders shall ensure coordination of ICPs and engagement with JIC</p>		
<b>4. Area Command Emphasis for Operating Cycle: <u>Safety, Professionalism, Collaboration and Documentation</u></b>  <b><u>Safety:</u></b> ~Mitigate hazards and reduce risk ~IMT's and responders should be "Right-Sized" to allow for rest, rehab and demobilization  <b><u>Professionalism:</u></b> ~Be honest and positive when engaging Stakeholders and Response Personnel ~Adhere to PIO Talking Points for government officials and contractors  <b><u>Collaboration:</u></b> ~Work closely with other EPA regions and response agencies ~Welcome newly reported personnel and integrate them into the response efforts  <b><u>Documentation:</u></b> ~Properly document response actions		
<b>5. Prepared by: AC Planning)</b> Ms. Erin Lambie, USCG 		<b>Date/Time</b> 30AUG2015/1700
AREA COMMAND 202a- UC TASKING		AC-202-CG/EPA (Rev. 08/15)

<b>1. Area Command Identifier</b> <b>Gold King Mine Release Incident Area Command</b> <b>OP Guide 14</b>	<b>2. Operating Cycle(Date/Time)</b> <b>From: 31AUG15/0700 To: 02SEP15/0700</b>	<b>Area Command</b> <b>Coordinating</b> <b>Requirements</b> <b>AC 202B</b>
<p><b>3. Area Command Coordinating Requirements:</b></p> <p>The below information SHALL be immediately reported to the Area Command Situation Unit Leader (see AC ICS 205 for phone number). Immediately reported means a phone call within 15 minutes or less of the action or event occurring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fatalities and/or injuries (requiring more than first aid) to responders</li> <li>• Any accidents or destruction to large equipment or vehicles</li> <li>• Releases that cause visible discoloration to the waterway downstream from Cement Creek</li> <li>• Major changes to operations that impact Counties, Tribal Governments, and States.</li> <li>• Any action that may draw Political or Media attention</li> <li>• Operational techniques that may impact in/on other EPA regions or ICP's</li> <li>• Reports of harassment, discrimination or violent behavior</li> <li>• Reports of Operational or Information Security breaches</li> </ul> <p>The below Actions, Strategies and Tactics SHALL NOT be conducted until the Area Commander or Deputy Area Commander(s) gives verbal or written approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Releasing data and technical information to Media or Stakeholders</li> <li>• River, stream or waterway flushing that may have negative impact on downstream operations</li> <li>• New operations taking place within existing Cultural, Environmental, Political or Tribal areas.</li> <li>• Operations taking place within new Cultural, Environmental, Political or Tribal areas.</li> <li>• Requesting critical resources needs. ICPs should not request a resource outside their Region</li> </ul>		
<b>4. Prepared by: (AC Planning Section Chief)</b> <b>Ms. Erin Lambie, USCG</b> 		<b>Date/Time</b> <b>30AUG15/1700</b>

1. Area Command Identifier  
Gold King Mine Release Incident  
Area Command OP Guide 15

2. Operating Cycle/Date/Time)  
From: 31AUG15/0700 To: 02SEP15/0700

AREA COMMAND ORGANIZATION  
CHART AC207-CG/EPA



3. Prepared by: AC PSC, Erin Lambie, USCG

4. Date/Time Prepared: 30AUG15/1700

AREA COMMAND ORGANIZATION CHART  
AC 207-CG/EPA (Rev 08/15)

<b>1. Incident Name</b> GOLD KING MINE RELEASE INCIDENT		<b>2. Operational Period (Date / Time)</b> From:31AUG2015/0700 To: 02SEP2015/0700		<b>COMMUNICATIONS LIST</b> AC205a-CG/EPA	
<b>3. Basic Local Communications Information</b>					
Assignment		Name		Method(s) of contact	
AREA COMMANDER		CHRIS RUHL		RUHL.CHRISTOPHER@EPA.GOV/214-789-9587	
DEPUTY AREA COMMANDER		DAVID OSTRANDER		OSTRANDER.DAVID@EPA.GOV/303-888-9906	
DEPUTY AREA COMMANDER		PETER GURIA		GURIA@PETER@EPA.GOV/415-505-1856	
AC PLANNING SECTION CHIEF		ERIN LAMBIE (USCG)		ERIN.G.LAMBIE@USCG.MIL/774-392-3120	
AC SITUATION UNIT LEADER		ISAAC ABOULAFIA (START)		ABOULAFIA.ISAAC@EPA.GOV/281-850-2153	
AC RESOURCES UNIT LEADER		JULIE BOSMAN (USCG)		JULIE.A.BOSMAN@USCG.MIL/810-531-6319	
AC LOGISTICS SECTION CHIEF		JOSE NEGRON		NEGRON.JOSE@EPA.GOV/404-386-4657	
AC FINANCE SECTION CHIEF		JOE POETTER		POETTER.JOE@EPA.GOV/859-653-7752	
AC ENVIRONMENTAL UNIT LEADER		DAVID KAPPELMAN		KAPPELMAN.DAVID@EPA.GOV/513-240-6840	
AC LIASION OFFICER		LIZ FAGEN		FAGEN.ELIZABETH@EPA.GOV/406-402-9825	
AC SAFETY OFFICER/CISM		TONY HONNELLIO		HONNELLIO.TONY@EPA@GOV/617-947-4414	
AC PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER		NANCY GRANTHAM		GRANTHAM.NANCY@EPA.GOV/857-829-8250	
CISM		CARTER WILLIAMSEN		WILLIAMSON.CARTER@EPA.GOV/404-229-9507	
CONTRACTING OFFICER (COTR)		TYRONE LEWIS		LEWIS.TYRONE@EPA.GOV/785-383-2137	
TECH SPECIALIST-DATA UNIT LEADER		BRAD MORGAN (START)		972-977-7422	
TECH SPECIALIST-DATA UNIT ANALYST		PINGYI WANG (START)		972-977-1684	
TECH SPECIALIST-DATA UNIT ANALYST		JIM VALENZA (START)		973-229-0503	
EU – TEAM MEMBER		ANNA MILBURN		972-533-7573	
CALL CENTER				844-607-9700	
AC GENERAL NUMBER #1		SITUATION UNIT		970-828-3409	
AC GENERAL NUMBER #2		SITUATION		970-828-3408	
PUBLIC AFFAIRS		JIC		970-828-3400	
AFGE LOCAL 3607		DAVE CHRISTENSON		303-408-6838	
		LONG DISTANCE CALLING - 9, 1, NUMBER, THEN 2015 FOR CODE		WEBSITE - RESPONSE INFO AND FAQ - <a href="http://WWW2.EPA.GOV/GOLDKINGMINE">HTTP://WWW2.EPA.GOV/GOLDKINGMINE</a>	
AREA COMMAND COMMUNICATIONS LIST				AC205a-CG/EPA (Rev. 08/05)	

**COMMUNICATIONS LIST (ICS FORM 205a-OS)**

## MEDICAL PLAN (ICS 206)

<b>1. Incident Name:</b> Gold King Mine Release Incident		<b>2. Operational Period:</b>		Date From: 8/31/2015 Time From: 0700	Date To: 9/2/2015 Time To: 0700
---	--	-------------------------------	--	---	------------------------------------

<b>3. Medical Aid Stations:</b>			
Name	Location	Contact Number(s)/Frequency	Paramedics on Site?
Animas Urgent Care	450 Camino Del Rio #106, Durango	970-385-2388	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Durango Urgent Care	2577 Main Ave, Durango	970-247-8382	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

<b>4. Transportation (indicate air or ground):</b>			
Ambulance Service	Location	Contact Number(s)/Frequency	Level of Service
La Plata County Ambulance	Durango, CO	(970) 382-6000	<input type="checkbox"/> ALS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BLS
			<input type="checkbox"/> ALS <input type="checkbox"/> BLS
			<input type="checkbox"/> ALS <input type="checkbox"/> BLS
			<input type="checkbox"/> ALS <input type="checkbox"/> BLS

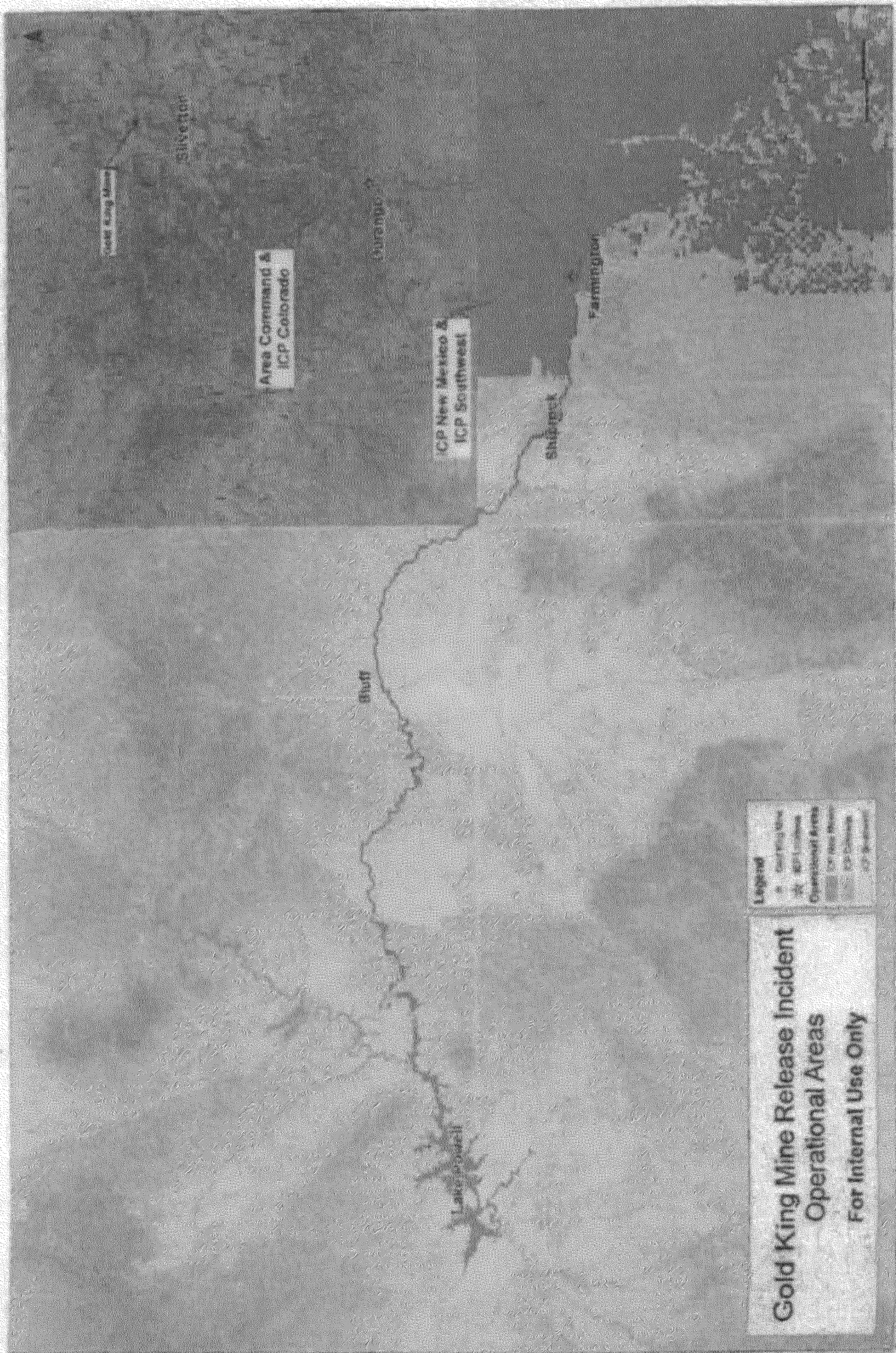
<b>5. Hospitals:</b>							
Hospital Name	Address, Latitude & Longitude if Helipad	Contact Number(s)/Frequency	Travel Time		Trauma Center	Burn Center	Helipad
			Air	Ground			
Mercy Med Center	1010 Three Springs Blvd, Durango	970-247-4311		15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Level: 1,2,3	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Level: ____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Level: ____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Level: ____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Level: ____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

<b>6. Special Medical Emergency Procedures:</b>	
Call 911	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check box if aviation assets are utilized for rescue. If assets are used, coordinate with Air Operations.	

<b>7. Prepared by (Medical Unit Leader):</b> Name: Tony Honnellio	Signature:
---	------------



## Area Command Weather Report

31AUG15 – 02SEP15

### Farmington, New Mexico Area

**Monday** - A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 88. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west in the afternoon.

**Monday Night** - A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east after midnight.

**Tuesday** - A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west in the afternoon.

**Tuesday Night** - A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 60.

**Wednesday** - Mostly sunny, with a high near 87.

**Wednesday Night** - Partly cloudy, with a low around 58.

### Durango, Colorado Area

**Monday** - A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 81. Light and variable wind becoming west 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.

**Monday Night** - A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. West wind around 5 mph becoming northeast after midnight.

**Tuesday** - A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 84. Light and variable wind becoming west 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.

**Tuesday Night** - A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 51.

**Wednesday** - Mostly sunny, with a high near 80.

**Wednesday Night** - Partly cloudy, with a low around 49.

### Silverton, Colorado Area

**Monday** - A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 67. Calm wind becoming west around 5 mph in the afternoon.

**Monday Night** - A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 39. West wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening.

**Tuesday** - A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 69. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Tuesday Night** - A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 40.

**Wednesday** - Mostly sunny, with a high near 67.

**Wednesday Night** - Mostly cloudy, with a low around 38.

### Hazardous Weather Outlook

HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE GRAND JUNCTION CO

459 AM MDT SUN AUG 30 2015

COZ001>014-017>023-UTZ022>025-027>029-311100-

LOWER YAMPA RIVER BASIN-CENTRAL YAMPA RIVER BASIN-

ROAN AND TAVAPUTS PLATEAUS-ELKHEAD AND PARK MOUNTAINS-

UPPER YAMPA RIVER BASIN-GRAND VALLEY-DEBEQUE TO SILT CORRIDOR-

CENTRAL COLORADO RIVER BASIN-GRAND AND BATTLEMENT MESAS-

GORE AND ELK MOUNTAINS/CENTRAL MOUNTAIN VALLEYS-

CENTRAL GUNNISON AND UNCOMPAHGRE RIVER BASIN-

WEST ELK AND SAWATCH MOUNTAINS-FLATTOPS-

UPPER GUNNISON RIVER VALLEY-UNCOMPAHGRE PLATEAU AND DALLAS DIVIDE-

NORTHWEST SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS-SOUTHWEST SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS-  
PARADOX VALLEY/LOWER DOLORES RIVER-  
FOUR CORNERS/UPPER DOLORES RIVER-ANIMAS RIVER BASIN-  
SAN JUAN RIVER BASIN-SOUTHEAST UTAH-EASTERN UINTA MOUNTAINS-  
EASTERN UINTA BASIN-TAVAPUTS PLATEAU-ARCHES/GRAND FLAT-  
LA SAL AND ABAJO MOUNTAINS-CANYONLANDS/NATURAL BRIDGES-  
459 AM MDT SUN AUG 30 2015

THIS HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK IS FOR EASTERN UTAH AND WESTERN  
COLORADO.

.DAY ONE...TODAY AND TONIGHT

A SURGE OF MONSOON MOISTURE WILL BRING SCATTERED TO NUMEROUS  
SHOWERS THUNDERSTORMS TO THE REGION THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.  
THIS ACTIVITY WILL BE CAPABLE OF PRODUCING BRIEF HEAVY RAIN...  
SMALL HAIL AND WIND GUSTS FROM 35 TO 40 MPH INITIALLY. LOCALIZED  
FLASH FLOODING MAY OCCUR WITH STRONGER STORM CELLS.

.DAYS TWO THROUGH SEVEN...MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY

MONDAY...SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS WILL CONTINUE TO BE FAIRLY  
WIDESPREAD AND STRONG IN INTENSITY...MAINLY IN THE AFTERNOON AND  
EVENING WITH THE SOUTHERN MOUNTAINS FAVORED.


TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY...EXPECT ISOLATED AFTERNOON AND EVENING  
SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS EACH DAY THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF THE  
COMING WEEK...MAINLY OVER HIGHER TERRAIN.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY...A SLOW INCREASE IN MOISTURE BEGINS AT THE  
END OF THE WEEK WHICH WILL RESULT IN INCREASED THUNDERSTORM  
COVERAGE OVER THE SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL MOUNTAINS.

.SPOTTER INFORMATION STATEMENT...

SPOTTER ACTIVATION WILL NOT BE NEEDED.

## SAFETY MESSAGE/PLAN (ICS 208)

<b>1. Incident Name:</b> Gold King Mine Incident Area Command	<b>2. Operational Period:</b>	Date From: 8/30/2015 Time From: 0700	Date To: 9/2/2015 Time To: 0700
<b>3. Safety Message/Expanded Safety Message, Safety Plan, Site Safety Plan:</b>  <p>Incorporate (or reference) within each IAP 'Site Safety Plan' the following (update each operational period):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review your ICP Occupant Emergency Plan. Be sure that personnel know where to muster in the event of an emergency and how emergency notifications are made.</li> <li>Stay abreast of weather forecasts and plan appropriately. Temperatures range from 30 to 90 degrees fahrenheit. Be sure to dress appropriately and monitor for severe weather</li> <li>Ensure all VIPs/media/visitors receive safety brief, appropriate PPE as well as sign safety brief acknowledgment form prior to deploying to work sites.</li> <li>Working at elevation requires additional hydration. Ensure that water is available for response personnel and that they are given adequate rest breaks to drink fluids. POPCI</li> <li>Monitor fatigue of ICP personnel and implement appropriate shift-work/rest periods. Personnel should now be considering taking a day off once a week.</li> <li>Implement and enforce the wearing of proper 'Level D' PPE as necessary. This is especially important for response personnel, VIPs, Press, etc...visiting the Gold Mine release site. Notify the AC-SOFR if any PPE issues, shortages, enforcement issues occur.</li> <li>Focus on ways response personnel can improve communications. Communicating is a two way street and not only includes information getting out to the right elements of the command but also being sure that your specific needs for information are being met. Ask questions as inappropriate in order to stay informed.</li> <li>Ensure injuries are reported to AC-SOFR per the AC ICS 202b in the Op Guide once appropriate medical attention is carried out</li> </ul> <p>Your CISM Team:</p> <p>The Emergency Response Peer Support Team offers a national network of trained peer OSCs and other EPA staff with whom you can talk on a private basis, either in person or over the phone, when you feel stressed. The peer supporters are OSCs or other EPA field staff who understand your job and can offer a listening ear when you need to vent about extended time away from home, a difficult response, or one of the many other things that can make emergency responses challenging.</p> <p>You can contact your CISM team members at any time:</p> <p>Carter Williamson (R-4): 404 229-9507          Tony Honnellio (R-1): 617 947-4414</p>			
<b>4. Site Safety Plan Required?</b> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Approved Site Safety Plan(s) Located At:</b> ICPs			
<b>5. Prepared by:</b> Name:		Position/Title: Tony Honnellio, SOFR	
Signature: 			
ICS 208	IAP Page	Date/Time: 8/29/2015 3:00 PM	

## EPA Gold King Mine Incident VIP/Media Site Visit Plan

- Safety is our number one consideration at the mine site. The Gold King Mine site is an active operation with heavy equipment and other construction site hazards.
- Site operations will take priority; be aware that visitations may not be allowed due to operational constraints or weather conditions. In general, if planned operations at the mine would need to cease during the visit then the request will not be approved by EPA.
- EPA is NOT conducting general tours at the mining site. Site visits are limited to visitors with direct responsibilities related to the response activities or on-going investigations into the incident.
- ALL visitors must receive personal protective equipment (PPE), in-person safety briefing and sign the 'Gold King Mine Visitor' sheet prior to work zone entry.
- Safety briefings are to be provided by designated Incident Management Team (IMT) Safety Officers, EPA On-Scene Coordinators (OSC), or United States Coast Guard (USCG) Strike Team contract oversight personnel only.
- Based on location of visit, visitors are required to wear appropriate PPE at all times. (e.g. eye protection, hard hat, and closed toe shoes and high visibility vests)
- **Visitors must be 18 years or older and accompanied by EPA or designee at all times during their visit.**
- All requests for visitation (for all work zones) must be submitted in writing at least **48 hrs prior** to [press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov), Monday through Friday.
- Media Access is provided for the sole purpose of capturing B-roll/footage and does not include on-the-record interviews with mine site personnel. EPA officials are available for on-the-record telephone interviews regarding the response activities.
- Use of a media pool is requested for access to Gold King Mine for the purpose of capturing B-roll/footage, if the site is deemed accessible in the Fall. No more than three representatives per site visit, to be determined and coordinated by media outlets. Names to be provided with credentials to PIO at time of visit.
- In the event of severe weather or if you see a lightening flash and hear thunder within 30 seconds of each other, please note that site visits will be cancelled and/or safe refuge should be sought. Personnel must wait 30 minutes after the last episode of thunder/lightening prior to re-deploying to the work zone.
- Prepare in advance and report to appropriate location (as instructed) with necessary rain gear, jackets, sunblock, food/water and medications.

### Additional details related to site safety:

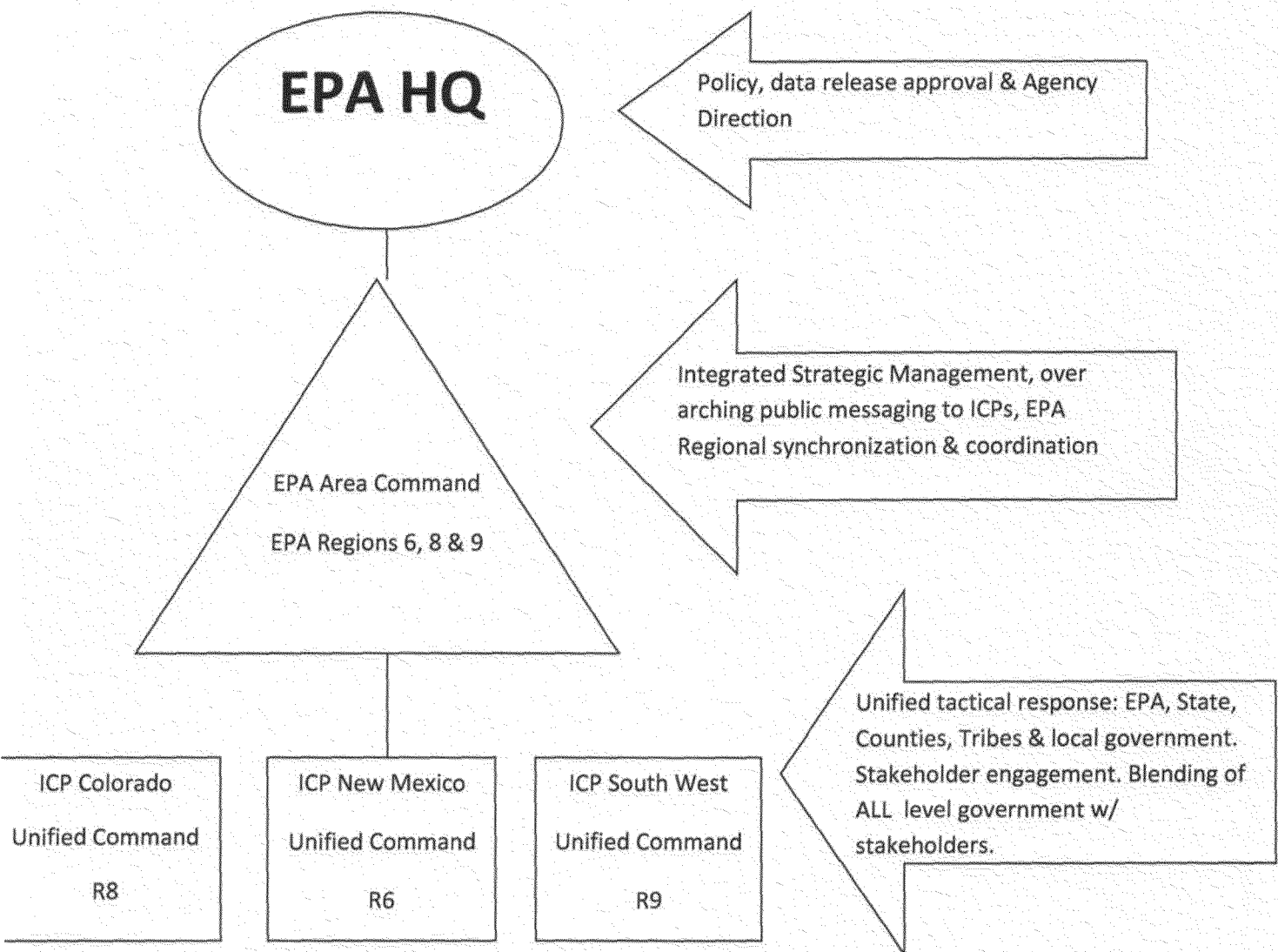
- While escorting visitors, Site Safety personnel or OSCs must maintain: Use of spotters, communications, and eye contact with heavy machine operators.
- UTV operators are required to have valid driver's license and training certification by USCG-Strike Team (or designated) personnel prior to operating.
- UTV drivers will operate within the safety parameters set forth in the Colorado IAP 208/215A (e.g. seat belts, speed limits, PPE, etc.).

<b>1. Area Command Identifier</b> <u>Gold King Mine Release</u> <u>Incident Area Command</u> <u>OP Guide 15</u>		<b>2. Operating Cycle(Date/Time)</b> From: 31AUG15/0700 To: 02SEP15/0700		<b>AREA COMMAND</b> <b>DAILY MEETING SCHEDULE</b> <b>AC 230-CG/EPA</b>	
<b>3. Area Command Daily Meeting Schedule (Commonly-held meetings are included)</b>					
Date/ Time	Meeting Name	Purpose	Attendees	Location	
31AUG15 0900	Sediment Pond Data Discussion 866-299-3188 Code: 2025643850	Discuss data generated at mine site and releasability to public.	Area Commander, AC ENVL, CO ICP ENVL	Conference Call	
31AUG15 – 01SEP15 0900	Meeting w/ IC's 866-299-3188 Pin: 0184 Code: 2146656780	To provide the opportunity for the Area Command to meet with the Incident Commanders and share information.	Area Commander(s)/Unified Area Command, Incident Commanders/Unified Command and their PSC's, Asst AC Planning, AC RESL, AC SITL, AC Executive Assistant, AC DOCL	AC Meeting Room and may have IC's/their staff on Conference Call	
31AUG15 – 01SEP15 0930-0945	Area Command Staff Meeting	Area Commander the opportunity to brief their staff on priorities, expectations & tasks	Area Commanders, DACs and all AC	AC Meeting Room	
31AUG15 – 01SEP15 TBD	AC EUL Transition Call			Conference Call	
31AUG15 – 01SEP15 1030	Agency CONF 866-299-3188 Code: 2025643850	Discuss Regional Response status, priorities and resources	Area Commander, DACs, EOCs, AC Staff as directed.	Conference Call	
31AUG15 – 01SEP15 1100 ***As needed	EPA ENVL Data	ENVL discuss sampling and data management	AC ENVL w/ Regions 6, 8 and 9	Conference Call	
31AUG15 1200	GKM Final Draft Post Incident Monitoring Plan		AC, AC ENVL	Conference Call	
31AUG15 – 01SEP15 1300 *if directed	EPA Agency Ex update	Update status, priorities and resources	Area Commander, DACs, EOCs, AC Staff as directed.	Conference Call	
01SEP15 1700	Produce/Publish AC Op Guide	To obtain AC approval of the Area Op Guide	AC, DACs and AC-PSC	AC Meeting Room	
<b>4. Prepared by: (AC PSC)</b> Ms. Erin Lambie, USCG			<b>Date/Time</b> 28AUG2015 1700		

1. Area Command Identifier Gold King Mine Release		2. Date/Time Published: 30AUG15/1300 For 31AUG15 through 2SEP15		AREA COMMAND <b>Visitor Schedule</b>	
3. Area Command Visitor and Public Events Schedule (Updated Twice Daily by 0900 and 1800 MDT)					
Date/ Time	Visitor's Name/Public Event	Purpose of visit/meeting	POC/Position	Location	
31AUG15 0800	JIC Meeting	Public information updates with SJBHD, CDPHE, EPA, LPC and SUIT.	Nancy Grantham, Area Command, PIO	Conference Call - CO Unified Command	
31AUG15 1030-1300	Possible formation of Coalition of Animas River Spill Partners	Discuss interest in forming a coalition of partners after the Animas River mine release similar to the San Juan Rio Grande Watershed Emergency Action Coordination Team (RWEACT) of the San Luis Valley formed after the West Fork Complex fires in 2013.	Nancy Grantham, Area Command, PIO Cynthia Peterson, Area Command, LOFR	Durango Public Library, 1900 E. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave, Durango, CO	
31AUG15 1130-1230	R8 Financial Experts Meet with AC	R8 Financial Experts meeting with Area Command and Finance	Liz Fagen, Area Command, LOFR	La Plata County Attorney's Office 1099 Main St. Suite 311 Durango	
31AUG15 1300-1700	R8 Financial Experts	R8 Financial Experts meeting with City, County and Tribal entities with financial assistance	Nancy Grantham, Area Command, PIO	La Plata County Attorney's Office 1099 Main St. Suite 311 Durango	
31AUG15 1400-1600	La Plata County Technical Subcommittee	Discussion of technical aspects of the response	Liz Fagen, Area Command, EU Nancy Grantham, Area Command, PIO	WWE, 1666 N Main Ave, Suite C, Durango, CO	
1SEP15 0800-1700	R8 Financial Experts	R8 Financial Experts meeting with City, County and Tribal entities with financial assistance	Nancy Grantham, Area Command, PIO	La Plata County Attorney's Office 1099 Main St. Suite 311 Durango	
1SEP15 1500-2000	R6 Open House	Animas River Open House - Federal, state and local agencies will discuss the response to GKM release	R6, Incident Command Mark Hays, R6 ICP Jon Rauscher, R6 ICP	McGee Park 41 Rd 5568, Farmington, NM 87401	
2SEP15 0800-1400	R8 Financial Experts	R8 Financial Experts meeting with City, County and Tribal entities with financial assistance	Nancy Grantham, Area Command PIO	Silverton Town Hall 1360 Greene St, Silverton, CO 81433	
2SEP15 0800	Southern Ute Site Visit and Ute Mountain Ute	Tribal representatives from the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute Tribes visiting the Gold King Site	Sandy Germann, IC, PIO	Silverton, CO	
2SEP15 1100 - 1300	NM Senator Udall (D) visit to Shiprock, NM	EPA (Bill Rhotenberry, IC Aztec) will brief Senator on NM and Navajo response activities. BIA and San Juan Commissioners have also been invited. R6 RA Curry and R9 RA Blumenfeld (or designee) will also attend.	David Gray, R6, Public Affairs Director	Farmington, NM	
4. Prepared by: (for AC Liaison Officer) Nancy Grantham, PIO					
			Date/Time	30AUG/1500	
AREA COMMAND Visitor Schedule					

# Gold King Mine Release Incident Response: National Management

## Roles



- ✓ **EPA's Headquarters (EPA HQ)** programs and activities protect human health and the environment. EPA Headquarters will provide the Area and Unified Incident Commanders policy guidance, management support, and special expertise.
- ✓ **EPA Area Command (AC)** for the Gold King Mine Release Incident Response was established in Durango, CO. The AC is comprised of a single Area Commander and 02 Deputy Area Commanders from EPA Regions 6 & 8, and Region 9. A daily Area Operating Guide is promulgated and disseminated to three Unified ICPs to provide strategic assistance, direction and resolve complex issues.
- ✓ Three **Unified Incident Command Posts (ICP)** have been established to management a tactical response in a multi-agency & multi-jurisdictional approach. EPA OSCs from Regions 6, 8 & 9 are Unified Incident Commanders (UC) in Durango, CO and Farmington, NM. These UCs are Unified with state, county, local and tribal officials from the geographic are spanning from Silverton, CO, down to Farmington, NM over to Lake Powell in Utah to include the Navajo Nation.

## 08/28/15



## BACKGROUND

How did this happen?

# Deliberative Process/Ex. 5

What was the total volume discharged on August 5?

# Deliberative Process/Ex. 5

Where did the plume go?

- *There is no longer a visible leading edge of the Gold King Mine plume. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that the water associated with the release reached Lake Powell sometime on Wednesday afternoon August 12. Lake Powell is a large body of water, and we expect no significant impacts to the lake, the Colorado River or any water bodies downstream.*

## RESPONSE

What work is happening at the site right now?

- *As water exits the mine, the water flows into a system of four treatment ponds. The treatment ponds provide retention time to allow the addition of lime to neutralize the acidity of the water. Flocculation compounds are added during the process to settle the metals to the bottom of the retention ponds. One additional retention pond was added to the treatment system in addition to the original four ponds to allow crews to manage the sludges that have settled out to date.*

- *This additional pond will allow the treatment system to maintain efficiency as the crews are managing the existing ponds. Longer-term treatment needs and options are being evaluated.*

**What is being done to control the situation?**

- *The EPA's primary objectives include working with federal, state, tribal and local authorities to make sure that people continue to have access to safe drinking water, ensure appropriate precautions are in place for recreational use and contact with river water, evaluate impacts to aquatic life and fish populations, and stop the flow of contaminated water into the watershed at the Gold King Mine site. Environmental Protection Agency teams are deployed throughout the Animas River corridor collecting data. They have collected water quality samples from seven locations in the river near intakes for Aztec, Farmington, Lower Valley Water Users Association, Morning Star Water Supply System, and the North Star Water User Association. Each of these locations will continue to be monitored as the release makes its way past these areas. EPA Mobile Command Post arrived in Farmington on August 9. Two scientists are available to assist with water quality monitoring. Collection, transport and lab analysis of metals in water is complex and time consuming. Workers at the lab and data experts are working continuously to evaluate and summarize the data.*
- *The Environmental Protection Agency is working closely with first responders and local and state officials to ensure the safety of citizens to water contaminated by the spill. The agency activated its Emergency Operations Center to ensure coordination among its regions, laboratories and national program offices in Washington DC. EPA is closely coordinating with the officials in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Southern Ute tribe and Navajo Nation. EPA is taking the lead on efforts to address the mine discharge and the discharge is now controlled. EPA has also deployed federal On-Scene Coordinators and other technicians in Colorado, New Mexico and the Navajo Nation to assist with response activities in these jurisdictions. EPA is sharing information as quickly as possible with the community as experts work to analyze any effects the spill may have on drinking water and public health.*

**Is the Environmental Protection Agency currently conducting sediment sampling? If so, when does the agency expect to make those results available? (EPA)**

- *The Environmental Protection Agency conducted sediment testing in Colorado, New Mexico, Navajo Nation, and Southern Ute Nation. New results are posted on the website on an ongoing basis. ([www2.EPA.gov/goldkingmine](http://www2.EPA.gov/goldkingmine))*

**What took so long for EPA to release water quality data?**

- *This is a time-consuming process. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is looking to develop and evaluate a full picture of the release event and water quality conditions before, during and following the movement of the plume downstream. The EPA sampled water at several locations in the Animas and San Juan Rivers for a suite of metals and contaminants. The lab work and quality assurance process for generating these data is extensive and designed to make sure we can have confidence in our results. This effort generated thousands of data points, which need to be analyzed by our scientists, placed in the context of other data collected, assessed for trends and compared to risk screening levels that EPA uses to make sure public health is protected.*

#### **What does the data say?**

- *The Environmental Protection Agency is collecting and assessing water quality from the Animas and San Juan Rivers daily. The La Plata County Sheriff lifted the recreation use ban on the Animas River on Friday, Aug. 14. The water quality data we have analyzed thus far continues to indicate little to no health risks associated with the plume and a return to pre-event baseline conditions in the Animas River in Colorado. In the San Juan River, data indicates the plume dissipated as it traveled downstream, and samples show a smaller rise in acidity and metals levels in the river compared to those in the Animas River. Further downstream, data does not suggest impacts as the plume dissipated and no leading edge was visible.*

#### **What contaminants have been found and at what concentrations? (EPA)**

- *Data is posted at [www2.EPA.gov/goldkingmine](http://www2.EPA.gov/goldkingmine) as they become available.*

### **HUMAN HEALTH**

#### **What are the health risks?**

- *Based on the data we have seen, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry do not anticipate adverse health effects from exposure to the metals detected in the river water samples from skin contact or incidental (unintentional) ingestion. We continue to evaluate water quality at locations impacted by the release.*
- *Although the pH levels in the Animas River between Cement Creek and Durango have returned to baseline levels, washing with soap and water after contact with untreated river water is always sound public health practice. This will minimize exposure to any*

*metals and pathogens that may be present. We are still reviewing data on pH levels in the San Juan River and will release those as soon as they have been validated.*

#### **How do I know if my drinking water is safe? ?**

- *The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) advises, "There are several types of "water" being considered and it is important to distinguish between them. Drinking water in the public water system comes from various sources and is treated before being delivered to homes and businesses."*
- *CDPHE goes on to say, "Depending on the source of water for a public water system, drinking water may be unaffected or only partly affected by the mine release. The Durango water system uses water from the Animas River and the Florida River. The state health department has notified Durango officials that the water is safe for drinking after treatment in the drinking water treatment facility."*

#### **What happens if there is incidental ingestion of river water?**

- *The Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment has stated, "If you swallow a bit of river water, you are in no more danger today than you would have been prior to the spill. But remember it is never advisable to consume untreated water. The data show levels of contamination are below what would be a concern for human health during typical recreational exposure."*

#### **Can you eat the fish?**

- *Fish were collected from the Animas and San Juan Rivers. Tissue samples were taken from these fish and the samples were provided to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) laboratory for testing. We hope to have the results from the CDPHE lab tests soon.*

#### **What if there is contact with sediment on shore and in water?**

- *Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment stated, "Sediment is just one indicator of a healthy river. There is some level of contamination in most Colorado rivers because of past mining activities and the geology of the state," the agency added. "The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment does not anticipate adverse*

*health effects from exposure to contaminants detected in the water and sediment during typical recreational activities."*

- *The San Juan Basin Health Department concurs with the state health department findings, and advises that there are no adverse health effects from exposure to the water and sediment during normal recreational use (incidental or limited exposure). The San Juan Basin Health Department advises the public to avoid areas with orange sediment or discolored standing water. Further, anyone coming in contact with any orange sediment or discolored standing water should wash with soap and water after exposure.*

## **FISH AND WILDLIFE**

### **What about wildlife and fish?**

- *The assessment of impacts to wildlife and fish populations in both the Animas and San Juan Rivers is ongoing but promising. The Environmental Protection Agency is working with the State of Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW), the New Mexico Department of Game Fish, the Navajo Nation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to investigate reports of impacts to wildlife.*
- *There were no fish kills along the Animas River during the plume event. Biologists walked and paddled the river looking for dead fish. There was also no evidence of scavenging by birds or other mammals*
- *No effects were seen on terrestrial animals – ducks, mammals, etc. Ducks have been seen back on the river since Monday, Aug. 10.*
- *The Animas River has been affected by acid-mine run-off for decades and that has been detrimental to fish populations for many years. CPW has seen a noticeable decline in the number of trout in the river for the last 10 years. There are very few fish found from Silverton to Baker's Bridge. The bridge is located about 10 miles north of Durango.*
- *While this information is encouraging in terms of short-term impacts to fish, we will be evaluating long-term impacts associated with exposure to the plume and the impacts of deposited sediments over time. EPA will be working with the States of Colorado, New Mexico and the Navajo Nation to evaluate these and other ecological impacts as we move forward.*

## ACCOUNTABILITY

**What is EPA doing to make sure this doesn't happen again?**

- *The EPA has worked successfully to address environmental concerns at hundreds of abandoned mine sites across the West. The EPA will thoroughly investigate this incident, and it is committed to applying all lessons learned to its work as it moves forward.*
- *While the EPA continues to investigate the root causes of the release of mining waste at the Gold King Mine, all Regions will immediately cease any field investigation work at mines, including tailings facilities. The Department of the Interior will lead an independent assessment of the factors that led to the Gold King Mine Incident. It is anticipated that the DOI will provide the assessment report to EPA and the public within 60 days. Based on the outcome from that assessment, EPA will determine what actions may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites.*
- *While EPA stops work on existing field investigations and assessments at these mining sites, EPA also is instructing Regions to identify existing sites with similarities to the Gold King Mine site, to identify any immediate threats and to consider appropriate response actions.*

**Who, specifically, is responsible for the release?**

# Deliberative Process/Ex. 5

## FUTURE

**Describe the damage that was done to fish, tourism, agriculture, etc.**

- *The Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife stated that, "There were no fish or wildlife killed or injured that have been reported. Tourism and agriculture effects will be assessed as time goes on."*

Are you considering making this a Superfund site? (EPA)

- *The Gold King Mine site has never been proposed to be listed on the National Priority List (NPL). At this time we haven't received any requests from the governor to propose listing this site on the NPL, which we look for as part of the agency's policy and practice for considering Superfund designations.*

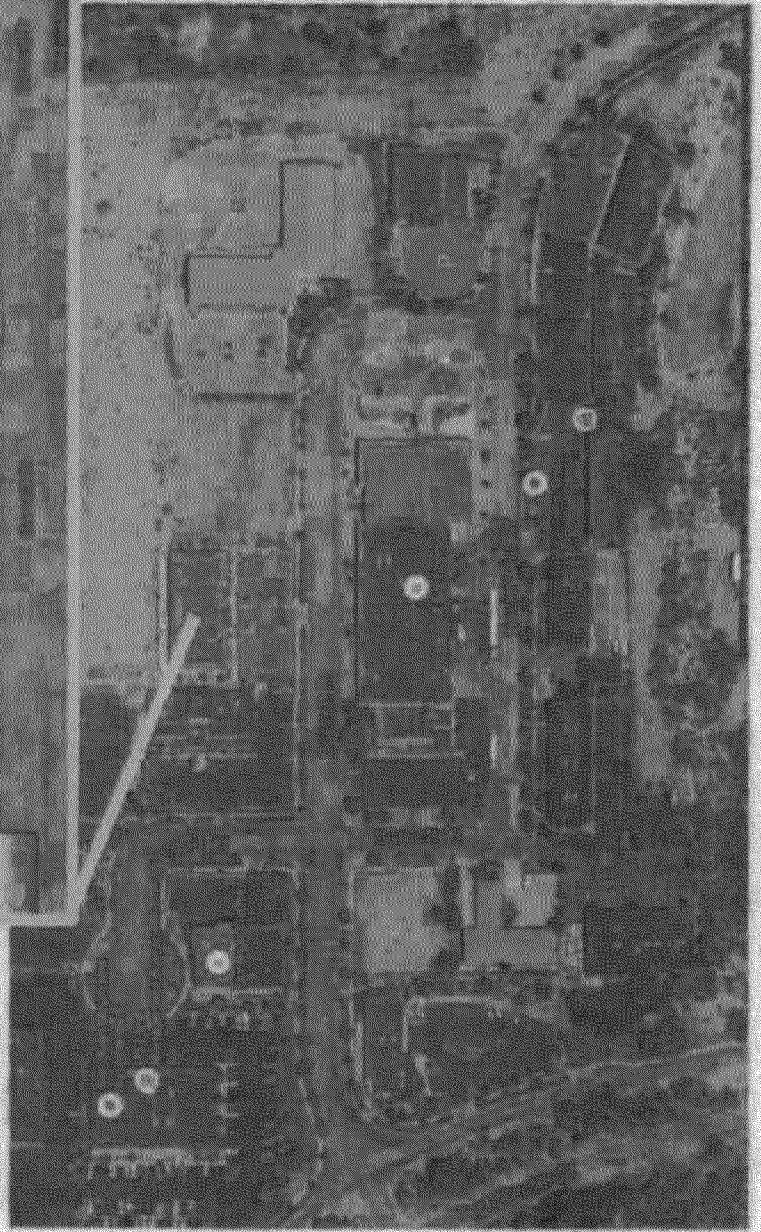
What are the long-term concerns?

**Deliberative Process/Ex. 5**

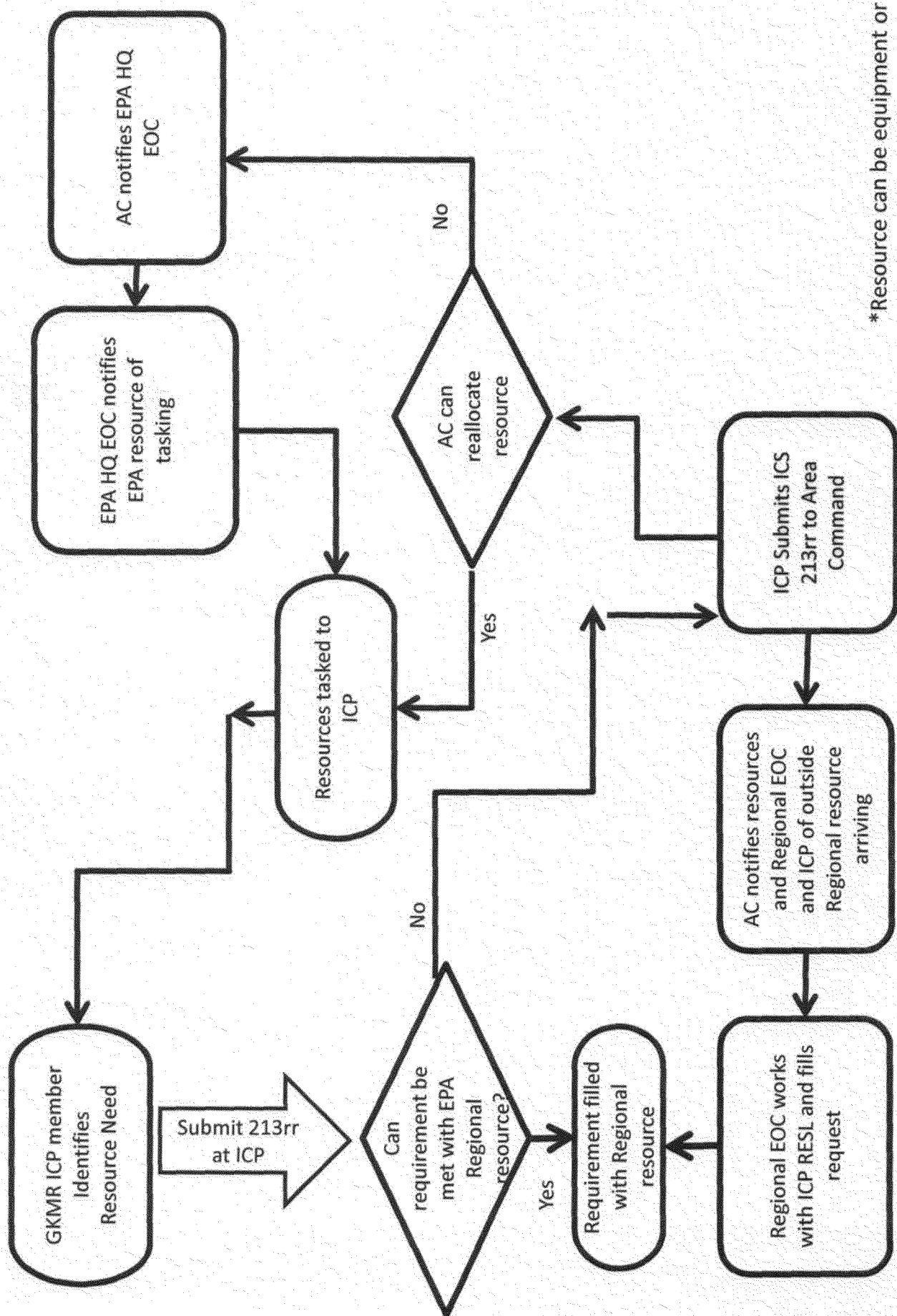
# Area Command/Colorado ICP Building Evacuation Plan

Parking Overflow

Muster Locations



# Resource Ordering Process



\*Resource can be equipment or personnel